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About one-third of the volume is devoted to a discussion by Dr. E. WIRTH of the ecological aspects of the vegetation, and this is illustrated by unusually fine figures and 10 plates (half-tones and photogravures), showing the formations and some individual plants. The annual course of vegetation on Kerguelen is also treated at some length.—C. R. B.

Errera Botanical Institute.—There has come to hand the second volume of papers from this institute, two volumes of which, published earlier, were noticed in this journal recently.⁵ This volume⁶ contains several papers on nitrates and ammoniacal salts, especially in relation to yeasts and other fungi and to root-tubercles, by LAURENT and by MARCHAL; some brief notes on microscopical and bacteriological technique by ERRERA and DE WEVRE; a considerable number of papers on the occurrence, localization, and significance of alkaloids in plants by ERRERA, CLAUTRIAU, MAISTRIAU, MOLLE, DE WEVRE, DE WILDEMAN and DE DROOG; several papers on proteids by ERRERA, MARCHAL, CLAUTRIAU, and DE WEVRE. All these papers have been published before, dating from 1881 to 1904, but mostly between 1888 and 1895. The volume closes with an annotated bibliography (41 pages) on alkaloids, glucosides, and tannins, etc., brought together by ERRERA and not previously published.—C. R. B.

British vascular plants.—Messrs. JAMES BRITTEN and A. B. RENDLE have compiled a list of British seed-plants and ferns⁷ in accordance with the international rules of nomenclature adopted by the Vienna Congress. The list is most timely and will prove a great convenience to students of the British flora. The British systematists are now in a condition of most enviable uniformity as to nomenclature, evidently having taken part in the Vienna Congress in the expectation of abiding by its decisions, and giving up, for the sake of harmony, even so cherished a custom as using the specific name first employed in the genus accepted. If our own flora were not so extensive, and if our own systematists were content to waive individual opinions that did not happen to be accepted by the Congress, such a working-list might be prepared for this country.—J. M. C.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS

Items of taxonomic interest.—L. M. UNDERWOOD (Bull. Torr. Bot. Club 33: 591-605. 1906) has revised the American species of *Stenochlaena*, 12 being recognized and 3 new ones described.—W. H. BLANCHARD (*Torreya* 7: 7, 8. 1907) has described a new *Rubus* (blackberry) from Mass. and R. I.—A. W. EVANS (*Bryologist* 10: 24-30. 1907) discusses and approves the reasons assigned by

⁵ BOT. GAZETTE 43: 215. 1907.

⁶ Recueil de l'Institut Botanique (Université de Bruxelles) publié par L. ERRERA. Tome II. Imp. 8vo. pp. xii+415. *pls.* 4. *figs.* 3. Bruxelles: Henri Lamertin. 1906. *fr.* 20.

⁷ List of British seed-plants and ferns. Department of Botany, British Museum (Natural History). pp. 40. Published by the Trustees of the British Museum. 4d.

LEVIER for retaining the genera *Calypogeia* and *Gongylanthus* as against *Kantia* and *Cincinnulus*, gives the synonymy of *C. fissa*, mentions the other N. Am. species, and proposes a new combination (*C. portoricensis*) for a West Indian species.—F. LAMSON-SCRIBNER (*Rhodora* 9:17-23. 1907) has presented the eastern species of *Muhlenbergia*, suggesting a somewhat new classification and segregating several sub-species and one new species.—M. L. FERNALD (*idem* 23-25) has described the alpine *Rhinanthus* of Quebec and New Hampshire as a new species (*R. oblongifolius*).—W. W. EGGLESTON (*Torreya* 7:35, 36. 1907) has described 2 new species of *Crataegus*, one from Vermont, the other Mexican.—P. A. RYDBERG (*Bull. Torr. Bot. Club* 34:35-50. 1907), in his 17th "Studies of the Rocky Mountain flora," has described new species in *Pedicularis*, *Adenostegia*, *Castilleja* (13), *Lupinus* (10), *Trifolium* (4), *Tium*, *Hamosa*, *Xylophacos*, and *Homalobus* (2).—L. DIELS (*Bot. Jahrb.* 39:469-486. 1907), in a synopsis of African Anonaceae, describes *Tetrastemma* as a new genus.—A. ENGLER (*idem* 573-580) has published *Sloetiopsis* (Moraceae) and *Pierreodendron* (Simarubaceae) as new African genera.—A. BRAND (*Pflanzenreich*, part 27. 1907), in a monograph of Polemoniaceae, recognizes 12 genera and 277 species, and describes new species in *Cantua* (2), *Polemonium* (3), *Phlox* (9), *Gilia* (12), *Navarretia* (7), and *Langloisia*.—W. BOTTING HEMSLEY (*Annals of Botany* 21:71-77. pls. 9-10. 1907) has described a new genus (*Seychellaria*) of Triuridaceae from the Seychelles.—CARDOT and THERIOT (*Univ. of California Publications, Bot.* 2:297-308. 1906), in a list of Alaskan mosses collected by W. A. SETCHELL and others in 1889, describe and illustrate new species in *Orthotrichum*, *Bryum* (2), and *Hypnum*.—H. CHRIST (*Bull. Herb. Boiss.* II. 7:257-274. 1907), in presenting the ferns of his *Costa Rican Flora*, describes 17 new species; and also (*idem* 275, 276) describes a new fern genus (*Lathyropteris*) from Madagascar, with characters intermediate between those of *Pellaea* and *Pteris*.—E. LEMMERMANN (*Bot. Jahrb.* 38:343-382. 1907), in an account of the algal flora of the Chatham Islands, describes a new genus (*Dermocarpella*) of Chamaesiphoniaceae.—G. W. WILSON (*Bull. Torr. Bot. Club.* 34:61-84. figs. 10. 1907), in the first paper of a series entitled "Studies in N. Am. Peronosporales," presents the genus *Albugo*, gives lists of hosts, recognizes 13 species, and describes one as new.—Miss G. S. BURLINGHAM (*idem* 85-95) has described 6 new species of *Lactarius* from Vermont.—C. H. PECK (*idem* 97-104) has described 20 new species of fungi, in 18 genera.—J. M. C.

Biometric studies.—FAWCETT⁸ has studied the variation in number of ray-flowers in the following Compositae: *Anthemis Cotula* from seven localities, *Achillea Millefolium* from four localities, and *Senecio triangularis*, *Aster adscendens*, and *Erigeron salsuginosus*, each from one locality. The results are not well discussed, but the data are given in tables and also represented by curves which show the following facts of interest: (a) Only in the case of *Anthemis* and *Achillea* were the numbers sufficient to give dependable results. (b) Both of these give

⁸ FAWCETT, H. S., Variation in ray flowers of *Anthemis Cotula* and other Composites. *Proc. Iowa Acad. Sci.* 1905:55-58. pls. 12-20. 1905.